

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Patricia Preikschat, et al. #20
 Serial No.: 09/171,558
 Filing Date: October 19, 1998
 Title: CHROMIUM(IV)-FREE CONVERSION LAYER AND METHOD
 FOR PRODUCING IT
 Docket No. 31716

REQUEST FOR REFUND AND SUBMISSION OF SUBSTITUTE POWER OF
 ATTORNEY AND CHANGE IN CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Attn: Refund Section, Accounting Division
 Office of Finance
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

On March 24, 1999, applicant filed a Preliminary Amend-
 ment and paid \$162.00 for extra claim fees. On March 24,
 1999, applicant also filed a Declaration for Patent Applica-
 tion and paid \$130.00 for the late filing fee. Both these
 fees were paid at the large ~~entity~~ rate. Applicant hereby
 requests a refund of \$81.00 (which is one-half of the extra
 claim fee of \$162.00 paid by applicant) and a refund of \$65.00
 (which is one-half of the late filing fee paid by applicant),
 for a total refund of \$146.00. Applicant notes that such

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
 with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an
 envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
 Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

John P. Murtaugh
 Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)
 May 13, 1999 Date
 John P. Murtaugh Signature of Attorney

refund is proper since these fees were paid less than two months ago, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a), based upon the establishment of small entity status of applicant. Two verified statements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27 (one signed on behalf of SurTec Produkte Und System fur die Oberflachen-behandlung GmbH and one signed on behalf of Continental Surface Treatment, Inc.), along with two extra copies of each statement, are filed herewith.

Please credit the refund to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 31716.

A Substitute Power of Attorney and Change in Correspondence Address for All Purposes with attached Certificate Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) directed to the undersigned attorney and firm is enclosed herewith. Please enter this document in the record of the above-identified application. This document has been executed on behalf of SurTec Produkte Und System fur die Oberflachen-behandlung GmbH, the Assignee of the present invention as evidenced by the Assignment document mailed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recording on March 24, 1999.

PEARNE, GORDON, MCCOY & GRANGER LLP

By John P. Murtaugh
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Date: May 13, 1999